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Front Page Edit Page Other Page

Date:

## Soviets On Defensive.

The Soviets have been forced into defensive positions before during the cold war, but no one instance of it stands out more sharply and clearly than did Communist Party Boss Khrushchev's little speech before American embassy officials at their Fourth of July celebration in Moscow.

Apparently irked because the world is getting the impression that the U.S.S.R. has internal troubles and thus has had to soften its policy toward the West, Khrushchev was forced to go on the defensive and proclaim that Russia's policy was being switched "not for the purpose of pleasing somebody," but "because these decisions . . . were the only right decisions and that is what motivated us."

Khrushchev failed to explain, however, why he thought it was "right" to suddenly agree to be more conciliatory now when only a short time ago it apparently was "right" to be as hard as nails toward the West.

As Allen W. Dulles, CIA head, noted in an article in Parade magazine, the Soviets couldn't cover up the fact that their agricultural production has been far too low for the country's needs. They revealed that when they openly expressed admiration for Iowa's corn growing methods and called on Soviet farmers to duplicate what Iowa's farmers are doing.

Khrushchev tried to give the impression in his Fourth of July statement that Russia has few troubles—agricultural or otherwise. But the cat is already out of the bag. Trouble does abound—at least in farm production.

Where are the Doubting Thomases who thought President Eisenhower's campaign to gain the psychological initiative against Russia had bogged down long ago? This event shows the Eisenhower administration is on its toes in this respect.

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